



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *April 2015 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

May 8: Mike Goode, N9NS, will talk about the W1AW/KH8 activation on American Samoa.

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### **Highlights from the April Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 49 present. David announced that there is a new amateur radio station near the INDOT Center at 21st and Post. They are looking for 3 or 4 ham radio ops to shake down the station. This will take about 4 hours. David has the info on this.

Announcements: Marion County ARES meeting the last Saturday of the month at noon. It will be a digital workshop.

It was announced that the club is looking to put a tent at the Indy Hamfest to help new hams.

Mike Palmer, N9FEB, asked for help on working the Mini Marathon. To volunteer, contact Mike at [N9FEB@comcast.net](mailto:N9FEB@comcast.net).

David Spoelstra announced that the Dayton Hamfest is coming up and we have bus tickets for sale for \$30. The bus goes over on Saturday, May 16. For more info, visit [www.indyradio-club.org](http://www.indyradio-club.org) or contact Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, [ws9h@comcast.net](mailto:ws9h@comcast.net).

INQP is May 2 and we are looking for people to work on their own and send in a log with the Indianapolis Radio Club as your club. We then get points for every log turned in and could win a plaque.

Field Day, June 27-28, is still in the planning stages. There will be a meeting this week to solidify plans which will be announced at a later date.

W9WMJ, Marty Justice, with the American Legion Amateur Radio Club was the speaker.

*[Editor's note: Thanks to Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, for supplying these notes in my absence.]*

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **DAYTON BUS PLANS**

The club has chartered a bus to the Dayton Hamvention again this year. The day trip to Dayton will be on Saturday, May 16. The bus will have two pick up points: 6:30 am at Southern Plaza, and pick up around 7:00 am at Peddler's Mall on the east side. It will leave from Dayton around 4:00 pm. As in the past, there will be a short stop at McDonald's in Richmond on the way to Dayton for breakfast, and a dinner stop at MCL in Richmond on the way back. The cost for the round trip is \$30 per person, and does not include admission to the Hamvention or either of the meals mentioned above. Tickets for the bus trip will be available at meetings, or by contacting club treasurer Rhonda Curtis, WS9H. The bus will drop off at the front door of Hara Arena, and be parked in close proximity of the facility so items can be stored on the bus for your convenience. Tickets for admission to the Hamvention are available on their website at <http://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>.

### **DON MILLER, W9NTP, SK**

Dr. Don C. Miller, 91, of Rush County, died on March 22, 2015. During WWII, Don served first in the US Army Signal Corp, then was selected for the Army Special Training Program. He was assigned duty at the Trinity test site near Alamogordo, New Mexico as part of the Manhattan Project.

Don was a ham since 1943. In 1972, he was present an award for "Outstanding Achievement and Devotion" to the art of amateur radio. He also organized and/or participated in 20 missions to Haiti and Columbia. From these missions, numerous churches and schools were built.

More information can be found at [http://www.rushvillerepublican.com/obituaries/dr-don-c-miller-may---march/article\\_37e80861-fed8-5314-8c63-12640de54e7b.html](http://www.rushvillerepublican.com/obituaries/dr-don-c-miller-may---march/article_37e80861-fed8-5314-8c63-12640de54e7b.html)

## **POSTAGE RATES GOING UP APRIL 26**

The US Postal Service has announced an increase in their rates effective April 26, 2015.

First Class letters of one ounce will NOT change, remaining at the current 49 cents. However, for each ounce over one the rate will go from 21 to 22 cents. Post cards will go from 34 to 35 cents. Letters to all International destinations will go up from \$1.15 to \$1.20.

## **TEN-TEC AND ALPHA AMPLIFIER HAVE A NEW OWNER (AGAIN)**

*From press release at <http://www.rkrdesignsllc.com/>:*

RKR Designs, LLC of Longmont Colorado has announced that they have acquired the assets of Alpha Amplifier and TEN-TEC brands from RF Concepts. RKR plans to expand the product line, while continuing to service their customers that have enjoyed their products over the years.

The principals of RKR Designs are Richard Gall, Ken Long and Rich Danielson (Gall and Danielson of QSC Systems, Longmont, Colorado have been a successful contract manufacturer, for over 20 years). Ken Long, N0QO has over 20 years in the electronics and amateur radio industry.

Long will be President and CEO of the new company. QSC has been building Alpha amplifiers for over 5 years. They have also been building boards for TEN-TEC since their purchase by RF Concepts last year. Mr. Long said "QSC has always been a fantastic contract manufacturer, and has the expertise and knowledge that will allow us to bring down costs, while increasing quality and reducing manufacturing times."

## **HELP NEEDED FOR INDY HAM FEST BOOTH**

*I received this note from Bob Osterhous, W9PSE. Contact Bob at [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net) if you can help.*

Purpose: 1. To help new hams get on the AIR. 2 Meter Handi display, catalogs, Help sheets .."Elmers" etc.

2. HF Rig on the Air W9JP showing PSK RTTY & SSB Demo

### 3. DIGITAL Set-up D-Star - DMR Fusion etc. (Live demonstrations) & INFO REMOTE OPERATION

Thus: Need operators and equipment: 3 10 x 10 Tents/ Sun Screen open sides.  
3 20 Amp 12 VDC Power Supplies Etc.  
1 HF 10-40 Dipole & cables.  
1 HF RIG with HRD or software for PSK

RTTY +  
SSB

2 - 2/440 Verticals w/ poles and base. + cables.  
All types of Digital gear & INFO. ETC.

This set-up is to be in Front of the "Last Year old equipment bldg" on the grass area.  
115 VAC should be available for us.

This is just a preliminary list and ideas for some "HELP BOOTHS FOR NEW HAMPS  
AND TO SHOW NEW CURRENT MODES ETC."

We need operators – equipment & Tents... Let Bob W9PSE know how you can help.  
( This saving the club \$400.00)

## INDIANA QSO PARTY COMING UP MAY 2

The annual Indiana QSO party is quickly approaching. The INQP is coordinated by the Hoosier DX and Contest Club, and according to it's web page, "The purpose of the **Indiana QSO Party** (INQP) is to encourage contact with Indiana amateur radio stations by other Indiana hams and hams worldwide. Stations outside of Indiana work Indiana stations only. Indiana stations work everybody, including other Indiana stations." It's a fun, 12 hour contest, and you don't have to work the whole thing. It's a great opportunity to put Indiana on the air. For more details, point your browser to <http://hdxcc.org/inqp/>.

## INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB VE TESTING SCHEDULE

*(All sessions start at 12:00 noon)*

**May, 2015 - No test session - due to all the activities during the month**

**June 13, 2015** - Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd., Indianapolis, IN  
Contact: James K. Rinehart, (317) 495-1933, Email: [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)

## **HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

I have a new 3 500 tube that I would like to sell. I paid \$190 for it and I would be pleased to receive \$125 for it. I also have an unused MFJ Artificial Ground. I would like to receive around \$90 for the unit. Thanks, David Wilhelmus, WA9OUX

Contact : [wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com](mailto:wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com)

Phone: 317 926-2358

## **MORE HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

In order to make room on the shelf, I am selling my Yaesu FT-897D, along with some accessories. I am the original owner of the rig, having purchased it new in July of 2005. At that time, I purchased the radio and the "built in" FP-30B power supply (no noise). Later, in October of 2005, I ordered the LDG AT-897 tuner (not the current "plus" model). Finally, in November of 2005, I installed a SSB filter in the rig. It also comes with the stock hand microphone and manual. As a "bonus", I will throw in the carrying case I have the radio in currently. It's a "road case" attaché that I used to use for a portable DAT (Digital Audio Tape) recorder, that was repurposed for the radio and it's accessories.

My total investment in all this is just under \$1400. I am willing to sell the complete package for \$800 (Price reduced).

Ken Bandy, KJ9B

[kj9b@arri.net](mailto:kj9b@arri.net)

(317) 456-4353

## **BENCHER SOLD TO VIBROPLEX**

Bencher, Inc. of Antioch Illinois announced the sale today of the Bencher Amateur Radio product lines to Vibroplex, LLC of Knoxville, Tennessee. This sale ends Bencher's presence in the amateur radio field, thus allowing the principals, Jere Benedict, President, and Bob Locher, (W9KNI) to move towards retirement.

The product lines sold include the Bencher BY series of Iambic Paddles, (the world's best selling iambic paddle, with over 150,000 sold) as well as the ST series of single lever paddles, the Bencher Hex Paddle, the N2DAN Mercury Paddle, and the Bencher RJ series Hand Keys. Also included in the sale are the HK-1 Universal Hook-up kit and the YA-1 Low Pass Filter. More information will be forthcoming on Vibroplex's web site at <http://www.vibroplex.com/contents/en-us/d62.html>

## **ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP COMING UP THIS WEEKEND**

The Rookie Roundup returns to SSB on Sunday, April 19, 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC. This is a great opportunity for new operators to get on the air and learn the skills of contesting.

"Old Timers" should also take note of this event. Consider opening your station up to a rookie (or two) and become an elmer. Remember, the more operators are on the air, the more fun the 'Roundup will be for everyone.

For more information, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

Travis Vettters, W8QHV

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## **Signals from the Past:**

**From the April, 1956 *Amachewer*:**

### **CENTRAL INDIANA MOBILE RADIO CLUB**

The CIMRC is an organization which has grown out of the desire for a planned program of mobile activities in Marion County.

The Auditorium of the Beech Grove Library was chosen as the first meeting place and the first meeting was held there on 26 January, 1955.

At this first regular meeting the purposes of the club were outlined:

1. To unite the common interest of the amateur mobile operator in this area.
  2. To organize an efficient emergency net.
  3. To offer our services to CD, Red Cross or any other organization warranting our services.
  4. To organize projects of interest to members.
  5. To get acquainted and help each other.
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### **Upcoming Area Radio Events:**

- April 18: North Central Indiana Hamfest sponsored by Kokomo Amateur Radio Club at the Miami County 4H Fairgrounds. Go to <http://nci-hamfest.net/> for more information.
- May 2: Indiana QSO Party More info at <http://hdxcc.org/inqp/>
- May 15 – 17: Dayton Hamvention More info at <http://hamvention.org/>
- May 16: Indy Radio Club Bus to Dayton Hamvention

### **2015 Officers:**

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL [n9kt@arrl.net](mailto:n9kt@arrl.net)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL [ws9h.indy@gmail.com](mailto:ws9h.indy@gmail.com)
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL [k9xv@arrl.net](mailto:k9xv@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL [g-17sk7.2@outlook.com](mailto:g-17sk7.2@outlook.com)
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL [don9doo@indy.rr.com](mailto:don9doo@indy.rr.com)